

# Oyster Cultivation (Ireland) Bill.

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## B I L L

TO

Promote the Cultivation of Oysters in Ireland.

A.D. 1884.

WHEREAS under the provisions of the Act 32 & 33 Victoria, chapter 92, and the Acts incorporated therewith, the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries are empowered to grant licenses to certain persons to form or plant oyster beds or layings, whether above or below low watermark, and it is expedient, with the view of further promoting the cultivation of oysters in certain places, to extend these powers: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may be quoted as the *Oyster Cultivation (Ireland) Act, 1884.*

2. The Inspectors of Irish Fisheries may make orders for the establishment or improvement, and for the maintenance and regulation, of an oyster fishery on the shore and bed of the sea, or of an estuary or tidal river above or below or partly above and partly below low watermark (which shore and bed are in this Act referred to as the seashore), and including, if desirable, provisions for the constitution of a company or body corporate for the purpose of such order, on an application by memorial presented to the said Inspectors by any person or persons desirous of obtaining such an order.

3. If on consideration of the memorial the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries think fit to proceed with the case they shall cause notices to that effect to be published and circulated in the district to be affected by said order, and shall give notice of the application in such manner as they shall think sufficient and proper for giving information to all parties interested, and to the owners or reputed owners, lessees or reputed lessees, and occupiers or reputed occupiers, so far as they may be known or ascertained, of the

[Bill 43.]

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Publication  
of notices.Power to  
Inspectors  
of Irish  
Fisheries to  
make order  
for oyster  
fishery.

A.D. 1884. portion of the seashore to which the proposed order relates, or of the lands adjoining thereto.

Objections and representations respecting order.

Inquiry into proposed order by public sittings.

4. During one month after the publication of said notices the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries shall receive any objections or representations made to them in writing respecting the proposed order. 5

5. After the expiration of *one month* the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries, or any one of them, shall proceed to make an inquiry concerning the subject matter of the proposed order, and for that purpose to hold a sitting or sittings in some convenient place in the neighbourhood of the portion of the seashore to which the proposed order relates, and thereat to take and receive any evidence and information offered, and hear and inquire into any objections or representations made respecting the proposed order, with power from time to time to adjourn any sitting; and the Inspectors may, for the purpose of such inquiry, take evidence, and by summons 15 require the attendance of any person, and examine him and any person who attends before him, on oath or otherwise, as they think expedient, and may administer an oath or take any affidavit or declaration for the purpose of the inquiry; and any person so summoned who, after tender to him of his reasonable expenses, 20 refuses or neglects to obey such summons, and any person who refuses or neglects to answer any question which the Inspectors are authorised to ask, shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a penalty not exceeding *ten pounds* for each offence; and any person who wilfully gives false evidence in any examination on oath in 25 any such inquiry, or in an affidavit or declaration to be used in any such inquiry, shall be deemed guilty of perjury.

Notice shall be published in such manner as the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries direct of every such sitting (except an adjourned sitting) *fourteen days* at least before the holding thereof. 30

Settlement and making of order.

6. As soon as conveniently may be after such inquiry, they shall proceed to consider the objections or representations that have been made respecting the proposed order, and thereupon they shall either refuse the application or settle and make an order in such form, and containing such provisions as they think 35 expedient.

Publication of order.

7. Where the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries make an order, they shall cause it to be published and circulated in such manner as they shall think sufficient for giving information to all parties interested, and shall give notice of it in such manner as they 40 approve to the owners or reputed owners, lessees or reputed lessors,

and occupiers or reputed occupiers (if any), so far as they may be known or ascertained of the portion of the seashore to which the order relates or of the lands adjoining thereto.

A.D. 1884.

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**8.** An order of the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries shall not of itself have any operation until confirmed by the Lord Lieutenant in Council.

Order to be  
approved by  
Lord Lieu-  
tenant.

**9.** Any person feeling aggrieved with an order of the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries may, within one month after the making of same, appeal to the Lord Lieutenant in Council against same.

Appeal  
against  
order.

**10.** **10.** The Inspectors of Irish Fisheries may from time to time make an order for amending an order that has been confirmed by the Lord Lieutenant, and all the provisions relative to an original order shall apply also to an amending order *mutatis mutandis*.

Amendment  
of order.

**11.** When an order of the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries has been confirmed by the Lord Lieutenant, the grantee or grantees shall by virtue of such order have within the limits of the oyster fishery named therein the exclusive right of depositing, propagating, dredging, and fishing for and taking oysters, and in the exercise of that right may, within the limits of the fishery, make and maintain oyster beds, and at any season collect oysters and remove the same from place to place, and deposit the same as and where they think fit, and do all other things which they think proper for obtaining, storing, and disposing of the produce of their fishery, or for the regulation of such fishery.

Effect of  
order.

**25** **12.** For the purpose of protecting an oyster fishery granted under such order, the grantee or grantees, under the hands of any two of them, where more than two, and subject to the approval of the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries, may appoint, at the cost and expense of the grantees, any bailiffs they may consider necessary for the protection of such fishery, and may make such regulations for the management of such fishery, subject to said approval, as they may consider necessary, and any bailiff so appointed may enforce such regulations, and shall have all the powers conferred on water bailiffs by any Act or Acts of Parliament in force relating to Irish Fisheries.

Grantees  
may appoint  
bailiffs, and  
make regula-  
tions.

**13.** Any person who wilfully trespasses on such fishery, or who not being a grantee named in such order, or not having the written permission of the grantee or grantees, or, where more than two, of at least two-thirds of the grantees, shall dredge, fish for, or take any oysters, or who being a grantee or duly authorized as aforesaid, shall dredge, fish for, or take any oysters in contravention of

Penalty for  
trespass or  
breach of  
regulations.

A.D. 1884. any regulations made as aforesaid, shall be liable, on summary conviction, to pay a penalty not exceeding *twenty pounds*, and to forfeit all oysters so taken, or a sum equal to the value thereof if they have been sold, or have not been delivered up to the bailiff so appointed, which forfeiture may be enforced in the same manner as a penalty; and the court may direct such penalties and forfeitures to be paid or delivered to the grantees to be applied by them for the improvement and cultivation of the fishery.

*Proof of  
order.*

14. Whenever it is necessary in any legal proceeding to prove the existence of an order under this Act, a certificate, endorsed on 10 a copy purporting to be a copy of said order, purporting to be under the hand of one of the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries, that same is a true copy of said order, and that same has been confirmed by the Lord Lieutenant, shall be taken and received as evidence in all courts of the existence of such order.

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*Orders  
determinable.*

15. Whenever it shall appear to the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries that the grantees or grantees in any order made under this Act are not maintaining the oyster fishery granted thereunder, it shall be lawful for the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries, if they shall so think fit, to determine by a certificate under their hands such order, and thereupon all rights and privileges thereunder shall be absolutely determined, and shall be null and void; and for the purpose of this provision the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries may from time to time make such inquiries and examination, and require from the grantees such information as they think necessary or proper, and 25 the grantees shall afford all facilities for such inquiries and examination, and give such information accordingly.

*Order not to  
abridge right  
of several  
fishery, &c.*

16. No order made under this Act shall take away or abridge any right of several fishery, or any right on, to, or over any portion of the seashore, which right is enjoyed by any person under any 30 local or special Act of Parliament, or any royal charter, letters patent, prescription, or immemorial usage, without the consent of such person.

*Copies of  
order to be  
kept for sale.*

17. The person or persons obtaining an order under this Act shall at all times keep at some convenient place in the neighbourhood of the portion of the seashore to which the order relates, copies of the order, and shall sell such copies to all persons desiring to buy them at a price not exceeding *one shilling* for each copy.

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*Extend to  
Ireland only.*

18. This Act shall extend only to Ireland.



# Oyster Cultivation (Ireland).

## B I L L

To promote the cultivation of Oysters  
in Ireland.

*(Prepared and drawn up by Mr. Blashfield, Mr. O'Brien, and Colonel Weston.)*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
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[Bill 43.]